# llowship Week

Boards and Committees for ous Objectors in Britain have all arrangements for the social open meetings which are being tion with CO Fellowship Week

17. Details are given below. ordially invited to attend the property of the RITCHIE CALDER TELLS right against

Os about the Week. Remi ore Christmas, Parliament ne continuation of conscription me for action is NOW. p.m., Sat., Oct. 10. Friends B. E.17. Speaker: Walter B. Spradbs m., Sat., Oct. 24. Bourne Mehod N.14. Speaker: The Rev. Citio

one war to which we have to commit Rd. Speaker (at 6.30 p.m.): Durselves and to which I am prepared to

Sat., Oct. 10. Congregational Chester Fred Hannant.

Sat., Nov. 7. Friends' Meeting Host.

Lane. Open meeting at 6.30 p.m.): The lane. Speaker (at 6.30 p.m.): The lane. Speaker (at 6.30 p.m.): The lane. Open meeting at 6.30 p.m.): The lane. Open meeting held at Margate last week of the land of the Labour Party Conserved the land of the Labour Party Conserved the land of the land

Sat., Oct. 10. Friends' Meeting How With him on the platform were three MPs, speaker (at 6.45 p.m.): John Flow Belle Hale, Emrys Hughes and Reginald

## shop weekend Peace News

We readers will be coming this weekend (October 3 and the landscape as well," he said.

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# ards

Crib (words by Housman) Bethlehem

nal (in five languages) verds in Welsh only) ... come to the Crib nlight Scene nd Shepherds d the Star t-out (Nativity)

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RDER NOW ! P OF RECONCILIATION

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# IBUNE

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ckly, Fourpenny, Triburatopen discussion of the the Labour Movement of the impact of the impact of the control of the impact of nts of the impact of nent on ordinary people facts about what is hap d. The Editorial Board Lee, Michael Foot, Isb J. P. W. Mallalieu. Helf s independent socialistics. oing, by ordering now

otions for New Reader ssues posted directly to order to Tribune, 222 Siran London, W.C.2.

PEACE NEWS, Friday, October 9, 1953 Registered as a newspaper.

world poverty

REJECT wars that kill, but there is

Ritchie Calder gave a stirring account of a spaign by the United Nations to stamp out disease called yaws in Java.

It afflicts young and old in tropical statements of the statement of the stat

Visit he had paid to a maternity hospital a East he had paid to a materinty non-plant has Bengal. There six women were dying a childbirth whose lives would have been wallable proper medical attention been

Emrys Hughes, MP told the meeting that he sught the Labour Party was "a great deal elihier than when we met at Margate three are ago and adopted the rearmament pro-

oday the Labour Party delegates were

cal of rearmament, and many resolutions

ng with it were on the conference agenda. said "atom bombs and tanks cannot by Communism."

believe in Communism based on the

believe in Communistic based but not all the services and Christianity, but not all the services and the services are the services and the services are services as the services are services are services are services as the services are services are services are services are services as the services are services are services as the services are services are services are services as the services are services are services are services are services as the services are services are services are services are services are services are services are

do not believe I would be considered an hodox member of the Communist Party.

living Labour a lead!

housands of delegates and visitors to the bour Party Conference at Margate last week

bed to look at the peace literature dis-ed on the Labour Peace Fellowship book-

\* Page Six

rensen, chairman.

obs for the generals

one war to which we have to commit

Brotherhood: Non-Violence: Freedom

October 9 1953

FOURPENCE (U.S. 5 cents)

Malaya, Korea, Egypt, Kenya, British Guiana

# GALLUP DEFENGE-ORWA

Conscript refuses military service, declares British foreign policy aggressive

BRITAIN conscripts boys at the age of 171 for two years' military service. During that period conscripts can be called upon to fight in colonial wars. Last week one young man protested against being called up for this purpose. The challenge he presented at the London Tribunal for Conscientious Objectors is reported below by Our Special Correspondent.

objector to military service was raised again at the sitting of the London Tribunal for Conscientious Objectors last

This Tribunal's original interpretation of the clauses in the National Service Act regarding conscientious objectors is still being adhered to in spite of the fact that the Appellate Tribunal has recognised this particular kind of objection.

John Douglas Reekie, of Richmond, Surrey, submitted the following statement in support of his application for exemption from National Service:

#### Endangering democracy

"The objection that I have to National Service does not stem either from an objection on principle to fighting nor from an objection to conscription as such.

"I do not quarrel with the need to defend one's country, rather I place the defence of the essence of the democratic system as exemplified in this country as my primary social

"Yet, accepting this need, my conscience cries out that the policy pursued by the successive Governments of this country in the name of "defence" is more calculated to result in the complete annihilation of those things which we all agree should be defended.

"I cannot see how I should be defending 'Democracy' by lending my help in repressing the democratic aspirations of the ordinary people of Malaya, Kenya, Korea, Egypt, etc. Rather my contribution to defence should be to de all in my power to convince the majority. to do all in my power to convince the majority that the Western concept of morality is not really that which is exhibited in the process of turning the villages of Malaya and Kenya into new 'Lidices' or that shown in murdering a primitive people for joining a secret society.

### Adopting totalitarian methods

the Conference buildings. Councillor ling to the Labour Peace Fellowship, is to Ben Willetts (left) and Hugh Brock to the Peace News staff, who organised sion and destruction which, while supported

THE vexed question of the "partial" by the majority of people in this country, ing its methods.

> "The economic totalitarianism of the West-with its exploitation of subject peoples-repels the conscience as much as the political totalitarianism of the Stalinist

"To state the case concisely:

(1) I am not a pacifist. I fully realise the need for defence, but,

(2) Defence does not seem to be best served by a policy which I believe is merely aggression on other peoples.

(3) As service in the armed forces at the moment demands support for such aggression I cannot conscientiously serve in them.

"This attitude has not just conveniently appeared. It has been arrived at during activity in the Labour Movement since the age of 13½ years—since when I have held a large range of positions in the Labour Party and have fought for the attitude which I have

Page Six

# MPs TO VISIT KENYA

## "Welcome decision" -FENNER BROCKWAY, MP

AN all-party delegation of peers and MPs is to go out to Kenya to investigate Govern-ment handling of the Mau Mau problem.

A request from Labour MPs for this to be done was rejected by the Government earlier this year.

Asked by Peace News to comment on this decision, Mr. Fenner Brockway, MP, said this

"I welcome the decision.

"The important thing now is the personnel of the commission. It is vital that they should see and hear everything and be allowed to go to the prisons and concentration camps and that Africans who want to do so should have the freedom to see members of the commission."

"The appointment of members of the com-mission will doubtlessly be by the leaders of the three parties.

"It is of the very greatest importance that Labour should have representatives with a broad attitude to the problems of Kenya."

## U.S. BOMBERS FLY CLOSE TO SOVIET TERRITORY

A MERICAN ten-engined atom bombers are to go on training exercises in North-West Greenland and North Africa according to the Daily Express, October 5.

In Greenland the planes will be less than a thousand miles from Murmansk and in North Africa probably flying within 500 miles of the Soviet-bloc state of Albania.

# These pupils need land

From Lucy O. Kingston
THE connection between Basic Education—
started by Gandhi in India 15 years ago—
and the Land-sharing scheme of Vinoba Bhave
started three years ago was stressed by Miss
Marjorie Sykes when she spoke at a public
meeting in Dublin organised by the Friends
Peace Committee (Quakers).

When pupils trained in a basic school, with
its emphasis on farm-work, came to leaving
age the provision of land was an obvious
necessity.

(Vinoba Bhave injured—page 3)

## AGAINST CONSCRIPTION

# The Indians and the Chinese prisoners

NIB. ATTLEE AND

HIS OVERCOAT

By Emrys Hughes, MP

PAGE SIX

From a Correspondent

IF we could know what were the experiences that impelled the Chinese PoW sergeant, Wang Shu, first to declare that he did not want to be repatriated, and then to declare to the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission in Korea that he wanted to go back we should be in a much better position to understand the kind of pressures that have been exerted upon these unhappy men, the very great difficulties the Repatriation Commission (and particularly the Indians) are having to face, and what was really behind the tragic happenings on Koje.

The Indians, who have undertaken very difficult and onerous duties in Korea, seem to have been doing their work in exemplary fashion. They are at present being subjected to a barrage of hate from Syngman Rhee and his Ministers, who may be seeking to find the occasion for restarting the war in an incident arising from the repatriation arrangements.

Mr. Cho Chung Whan, the Acting S. Korean Foreign Minister, speaks of the evil acts that are being committed by the Indians and threatens to drive them from Korea by armed

There has been firing by Indian guards in order to prevent prisoners from breaking out of their control. On one occasion one prisoner was killed, and on another two. These are the evil acts referred to by Mr. Whan.

These shootings are greatly to be regretted, but they must be measured against the vio-lence used by the Americans on Koje when on more than one occasion there was a very heavy death-roll, the worst incident resulting in 100 deaths and 100 woundings among the

Sergeant Wang Shu, referred to above, had expressed, according to the Repatriation Commission, a desire to be returned to China and he had been sent there. This brought an angry demonstration from the prisoners who were declaring against repatriation.

#### Angry threats turned to cheers

Major-General Thorat, of the Indian Custodian Force, with other officers, entered the compound to discuss the matter. After an altercation one of the Indian officers, Major Grewel, was over powered by the prisoners who announced that he would only be released on the return of Wang Chu.

Dealing with the prisoners on this matter, General Thorat suddenly remarked smilingly to a prisoner who understood English: "What sort of Chinese are you? Where is your hospitality? You have neither offered my men ten nor cigarettes."

On this, reports India News, the prisoners' anger seemed to vanish. Tea and cigarettes were brought and after some further discussion in this friendlier atmosphere Major Grewel was produced.

As General Thorat left the compound he was cheered by the prisoners.

#### A good record

General Thorat said that his officers and men acted with exemplary patience and there is a good deal of other testimony that this is

The New York Times, for instance, for September 18, remarks that the record of the Indians in keeping order "is all the more remarkable in view of the fact that the Indians are unarmed (this relates to the initial process of sorting the prisone(s) and seldom use their hands for more than a reminding pash along the processing line or an occasional pat on the back to assure a glowering PoW that they are

"On the occasions when the PoWs. infuriated at the sight of their enemies almost at arm's length, strike out blindly at the Indian soldiers to break past them, the Indians close in calmly but with lightning-like swiftness, hustle the men along the line."

"Without speaking the anti-Communist prisoners' language the Indian Army Guarda in this neutral zone compound seem to understand how to transmit a feeling of friendship. Helpers are wanted by Mr. I. K. Eaton, Sh Stalbridge St., N.W.I, for canvassing and leasted distribution in support of an "End Conscription" meeting to be held in Paddington Town Hall, on October 30, in connection with the No Conscription Council's petition.



# PEACE NEWS

3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4 STAmford Hill 2262 (three lines)

9th October, 1953 

#### THE END OF THE ARMS RACE

N his comments last week on the Labour Party Conference, Mr. Emrys Hughes drew attention to the unreality of outlook which could spend a week in discussions on political questions during which the factor of the presence in the world of the atom and hydrogen bombs was for all practical purposes ignored.

This lack of a sense of reality ,however, is dominating the activities of the politicians of all the Parties and all the Powers. They continue to contemplate relationships between the nations along the lines of traditional political thinking, refusing to face the fact that the conditions of the world today have so funda-mentally changed that the traditional political assumptions have ceased to be relevant.

An outstanding instance of this is to be found in the attitude of the Powers to competition in arms. The traditional assumption upon which all the Powers sought to act-an assumption that was always blind in one eye, but was nevertheless persisted in was that it was necessary for national safety to be stronger than any possible enemy or even than any possible combination of enemies; hence the

It now becomes evident that the arms race has run its course. It can go no further.



The first experimental atom bomb was exploded by the US Government at Alamogordo in July, 1945. The first experimental atom bomb exploded by the Russian Government was in September, 1949. The first experiment mental hydrogen bomb was exploded by America in November, 1952. It had a force of 3.000,000 tons of TNT, or 150 times that of the atom bomb exploded at Hiroshima. Bombs of much greater power than this can now be made, probably with a force of 10,000,000 tons of TNT, or 500 times that of the Hiroshima The first Russian hydrogen bomb was exploded in August, 1953.

As a result of these developments, Mr. Dulles has commented that physical scientists 'found means which, if they are developed, can wipe life off the surface of this planet." These means are now, of course, being developed on both sides of the iron curtain.

Now the arms race throughout history has had a double character. The contending nations have sought to have a greater accumulation of various instruments of destruction and of men trained to operate them than a possible enemy; they have also sought to outreach the possible enemy in the creation of new and more destructive means, that will reduce to futility any defensive apparatus the enemy may have constructed.

The second of these aspects of the arms race has now reached the ultimate. It can go no further: and its character is such that it can overwhelm any accumulation of weapons of war of what are now called a "conventional" character, and thus the race in mere quantities is also nullified. Both sides in the power struggle have now at their disposal a sufficient supply of A and H bombs to bring complete destruction to their enemy. Whatever may be done in regard to measures of protection for populations so threatened and it does not appear to be very much—it is quite clear now that it is impossible to take any further steps to deter a prospective enemy by increasing the threat against him. The threat is now absolute. If each side has sufficient destructive material for the complete destruction of the opponent there is no point in adding to that material.

The traditional conception of militaristic peacemaking, "If you would have peace, pre-pare for war — and prepare in such a way that you will be stronger than your enemy, cannot now have any further relevance to the situation. Even the militarists, therefore, will have to try to rise above their instinctive reflexes and think along other lines in seeking national



There will be no way of meeting the problem by ruling out the use of atomic bombs in warfare and conducting wars without them. It may be possible to reach agreement on the banning of A and H bombs and on the provision of the necessary controls to ensure that they shall not be made-in times of peace The knowledge of how to make them will still be there, however, and given war entered upon by two of the major Powers-and not conducted at one remove, as in Korea at the expense of puppet victims—sooner or later the atomic weapon will be used.

The end of the arms race will mean either the end of war or the end of mankind through global catastrophe.

The impasse that has been reached in the arms race is reflected in the stalemate position that exists in regard to every negotiation that should be taking place; on Korea; on Germany and Austria; on the proceedings of the United Nations Assembly; everywhere a dead end seems to have been reached

Each separate nation will do well to resolve that the days of war are over and stop prepar-ing for it. When it is realised and accepted that the possibility of a solution by arms or the threat of arms is a thing of the past it may be possible for the Powers to come together to make a peace on the basis of peaceful aims and peaceful means.

#### Troops to British Guiana

THE British Government is seeking to subdue by a show of force the demands for greater measure of independence that are being made in British Guinna by the Peoples Progressive Party which, while it admits Communists, has nevertheless been returned to power by a majority of the voters.

In observing the development of this situation what must not be lost sight of is the legislation that was actually before the House of Assembly when the decision was taken to send troops.

This is a Labour Relations Bill which gives Labour Minister power to examine whether a trade union can claim to speak for the majority of workers in an industry. he decides that it can, the Bill proposes that he shall be empowered to require its recognition by the employers.

There is very great wealth and appalling poverty in British Guiana and what is happening today is very closely related to that

#### "How to read the newspapers"

THE handling by the Beaverbrook Press of the news on British Guiana and on other issues where the operations of British imperialism are in question provides a striking example of the need to apply the tests suggested by Dr. Alex Comfort in Peace News last week.

The Beaverbrook Press has a policy of shamelessly extolling the imperialism of naked force so long as it is British imperialism.

On Monday the Evening Standard had Lord Hailsham urging the use of the mailed fist to prevent the end of British control in Egypt; and the reports in the Daily Express are heavily charged with phrases that are calculated to produce the prejudice that will prevent a consideration of the real issues presented by what is happening in British Guiana. It speaks for instance of protective measures that are to be taken "if the Communist-dominated Cabinet calls on its supporters to rise in revolt and launch a Mau-Mau war on the Deitsch." the British."

#### The German menace

RUPPS turns to Ploughshares: Threat TRUPPS turns to Prougnantees.

to Britain" are the headlines to the Manchester Guardian's account of the "comeback" of the great armaments manufacturer of two world wars.

In all parts of the world, particularly in Asia and the undeveloped areas, Krupps is entering upon construction contracts.

It is emerging, according to the Guardian's correspondent, as Britain's most dangerous rival in these areas.

Had Mr. Attlee this in mind when he and punishable in law if they obey them."
remarked at Margate that Germany could not We have seen an attempt by the French be left "without any burden of armaments while we are pleged to defend her?" It is apparently necessary for our economic safety that Germany should beat her ploughshares into swords.

The fact that a disarmed nation may provide a "menace" is an indication that the problem of peace is a unity that has to be approached in the social and economic field as well as in the field at present dominated by armed power. This does not mean that while a neutralised Korea can be seriously discussed a neutralised Germany is an impracticability. It would be a great contribution to world peace if a neutralised, unarmed Ger-many were to devote the expenditure that arms would demand to precisely the kind of devel-opment work that Krupps will be undertaking. But it would need a radical change in tradi-

# BEHIND THE NEWS

If the political parties are sincere in their desire to help the under-developed nations they have to find an answer to the problem that such a policy presents.

Its solution would lead to the construction of a very different kind of social order.

#### The Pope on war crimes

THE remark of the Pope, in addressing the International Congress on Penal Law, that "one who is outside the quarrel feels there is something wrong when, at the end of hostilities he sees the conqueror judge the conquered for the crimes of war, when the conqueror himself has been guilty of similar deeds toward the conquered" is a clear indication that in his view the Nuremberg war crimes trials were a travesty of justice.

There is, however, a complete absence of any practical sense in most of the remainder of his comments.

He suggested, for instance, that "the waging of modern war except in self-defence" should be constituted a crime.

There is nothing new in this. It has always been a part of Catholic doctrine and it has always been completely futile.

Not only each nation, but the Catholic Hierarchy of each nation is always ready to declare that it is fighting in self-defence, or in defence of its vital interests, and the Vatican has never yet been prepared to make an unequivocal pronouncement which would require action against the Catholic Hierarchy in any country.

is completely useless to make these general pronouncements if they are never to have any particular application.

As to the various other actions the Pope

declared should constitute crimes-if there is no possibility of these being brought to trial at the end of a war where there has been no complete victory, as in Korea, it is very evident there will not be an impartial judgment of acts of war criminality where there are victor and defeated.

Equally impracticable was the Pope's suggestion that leaders in war should be punishable "before the law" if they ordered the execution of war crimes and that "subordinates be dispensed from executing such orders

to apply this principle in the Oradour trials, the monstrous result that Frenchmen held to be guilty of crimes against Frenchmen because they feared to resist the orders of the German Command have been held to be less guilty than Germans who were convicted of similar crimes because they also were afraid to resist the German Command.

The attempt to establish this principle would require the unqualified acceptance of the supremacy of the individual conscience. This, in turn, dictates the acceptance of the validity of conscientious objection to military

#### Very limited democracy

IT is possible that the majority of the British Tr is possible that the majority of the British people are in favour of the installation on British soil of a string of American bases for working population.

the launching of American aeroplanes carrying atom bombs; possible, but not certain, for his British people have never been consulted is one of the limitations of what is described as democracy that this is a matter that can b regarded as of secondary importance upon which it is not necessary that there should be popular consultation. The two main political parties or rather the top-level caucuses of the two main political parties—are agreed upol this matter and in consequence no public di cussion on the issue is felt to be necessary and it need not figure as an election issue. Here the people are never asked.

We mention this matter now because it hearing and the a bearing on the proceedings of the Land Party Conference, where similar consideration Without being particularly explicit the matter, the Margate Conference appro-the level of armaments development institution by the Labour Government and only sign modified by its Tory successor. Just as the American atom-bomber bases and the Billion alastic tish electorate it can be said that it is possi that the majority of the members of the Labour Party are in favour of the armaments p supported by the Parliamentary Labour fart possible, but not certain, for the members the Labour Party have never been consult

A minority of the members of the Lab Party those in the individual members sections have been consulted. These, howelget only one opportunity of giving effective expression to their democratically-register viewpoint. They have done this at Margare just as they did at last year's Conference the return of six "Bevanites" out of the places available for direct election by the local Labour Parties.

On every other matter that comes before Conference the issue is dominated by block votes of the trade unions. There nothing resembling democratic practice her not because the votes are "block" votes, because in the overwhelming majority of there has not been the slightest consultation. there has not been the slightest consultation the members on whose behalf they are posed to be cast as to the way in which should be registered. Generally speaking in should be registered. Generally speaking has not even been consultation of the bives of the unions consultation of the tives of the unions concerned.

These votes are cast purely on the decision of the delegations, and in all the circumstal it is inevitable that in the main they she be used in the way the platform desires shall be used.

Both the main political parties are cau dominated; and when it happens that theis agreement between the two caucuses dens racy is squeezed out.

What obtains in Britain is a great deal betthan the single-party totalitarian method government in Yugoslavia, Spain, Russia # the Russian vassal states; but it is very from being a genuine democracy.

### American military expenditure

ROLLOWING our comments on estimate military expenditure for next year, first supplied by the US Committee Against My tarisation show that the expenditure for current fiscal year (ending June, 1954) is billion dollars (or more than 15 billion pounds).

#### THE FUTURE KOREA

A NUMBER of statements have been made in the past few days, either openly in meetings of the United Nations Assembly or in the corridors, which suggest that Western powers are beginning to grapple seriously with problems that must be answered if there is to be peace or even temporary stabilisation in Asia.

By the same token the possibility emerges that people may have some basis for determining how genuine is the will to peace on the part of various governments.

It is openly stated in our Press that the State Department, without having finally made up its own mind and insisting that the National Security Council and President Eisenhower are not yet committed, has indicated to some of the governments with UN armed forces in Korea that the US is ready to confront the Soviet Union and Communist China with a concrete choice:

If the Communists "continue to block the unification of Korea," the US will maintain substantial forces in South Korea "as long as there is a possibility of another aggression by North Korea."

If, on the other hand, the Communists will agree to the creation of a free and independent Korea and "the withdrawal of all foreign forces," the US is willing to join in an international guarantee of Korea's neutrality. A unified Korean government would continue to have its own military establishment but the international guarantee would include reci-procal safeguards that the all-Korean government would not offer a military threat to the Soviet Union or Communist China, or vice versa.

Selwyn Lloyd of Great Britain, Pearson of Canada, and Schumann of France, have advanced similar suggestions about withdrawal of foreign troops, neutralisation,

#### 

The reasons why these proposals at last give us a basis for determining the real intentions of governments, are obvious.

If the US has in mind arrangements under which a Syngman Rhee regime-under Rhee himself or someone else-with an army like the present South Korean one, which has

modern American equipment and is said by some to be the most powerful in the world, those of the great powers excepted, will be installed as a result of "free elections," etc., then it is proposing a thinly disguised US victory. Such a regime would in effect constitute a US foothold on the Asiatic continent and will certainly not be accepted by the Communist powers unless, which seems unlikely, they simply are powerless to prevent it.

### LETTER FROM U.S.A. By A. J. Muste

Let us assume at least for the moment that the State Department has something better in mind, the establishment of a new regime -neither the present South Korean nor the present North Korean camouflaged-as a result of free elections. This should mean the virtual dismantling of the present military establishments and the creation of a new one suited to the new regime—whatever "suited" may mean in such a context.

This would constitute a great change in the US approach and it would obviously take a good deal of "persuasion" to get Syngman Rhee to agree or to remove himself.

There is a real question as to whether the treaty of mutual defence between US and South Korea, unless it is abrogated, does not constitute an insuperable obstacle to the adoption of the latest proposal. One can already hear the cry of "appeasement" of Com-munism and of "base desertion" of Rhee and Chiang raised by our Asia Firsters. If in spite of all this the plan is carried out, it will prove that the Eisenhower administration is prepared to pay a big price for reducing its military commitments in Korea and perhaps other points in Asia.

Mr. Vyshinsky's first reaction was that the Soviet Union's attitude toward the idea of a unified and neutralised Korea depended on what the proposal meant when spelled

For instance," he said, "who would do the guaranteeing? What forms would the guarantee take?" He paused until an aide had translated this, then added emphatically,

As I see it, the Soviet Union and China to face exactly the same problem as the US. If they are essentially determined to retain the North Korean regime replica of it, then they want a thirty guised Communist victory. This "solution the US will not accept, save in the unit event that it is utterly impotent to present the community of the commun

Similarly, if the big Communist powers ready to accept the liquidation of the sent North Korean regime and its arms trustratio ready to accept the liquidation of the ready to accept the liquidation of the ready to accept the liquidation of the ready to pay a big price paint the pain

they were ready to pay a one reducing their strategic commitments.

If both sides were thus disposed, it would be ages welcome. It would not be peace will tary

The decision whether a nation shall dispensive the decision whether a nation shall dispensive the armed forces should be left to its got people and not imposed upon them and if a unified and neutralised Korea decision that its "self-respect" demanded that should have about as big a military establishment as it could support, just like or nations, then it would inevitably be tangled in the power struggle.

Its "guaranteed neutrality" would be like the uneasy and eventually shattered trality of Belgium.

the bigger the Korean forces, the more applied hension on the part of its neighbours more pressure to line them up on one or the other as soon as the now somewhat tired Powers have recouped their eners

Would that a free and independent would write a war-renouncing clause its Constitution similar to Japan's and these two peoples joined together to me it stick. Pacifists, surely, should advocated voluntarily disarmed as well as unified neutralised Korea.

Would US and USSR guarantee the in p ability and neutrality of such peoples and oso would indeed pose problems for Their own people might ask, "If Kandan Japanese can have the benefits of armament and pacifism, why not we!

Ichira ine Japane THERE

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of the members of the Laborator the individual members been consulted. These, howel opportunity of giving effect their democratically-registe y have done this at Margal l at last year's Conference
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n political parties are cault when it happens that there een the two caucuses dente

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#### ican military rpenditure

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ated to be equivalent to libour of 19 per cent. of

Soviet Union and China y the same problem as ney are essentially determine North Korean regime then they want a thinly mist victory. This "solution of accept, save in the unit is utterly impotent to pre-

1 their part. It would prop idy to pay a big price strategic commitments.

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ether a nation shall disps rces should be left to its gi of imposed upon them and neutralised Korea decided -respect" demanded that bout as big a military could support, just like out it would inevitably be power struggle.

neutrality" would be like eventually shattered lgium.

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war-renouncing claus, and it is milar to Japan's and the bles joined together to make the surface of the surface as well as unified as well as unified as

USSR guarantee the into drafty of such peoples deed pose problems for ople might ask, "If Kora an have the benefits of pacifism, why not we?"

# Militarism in Japan

# PREPARING TO BREAK THE CONSTITUTION

BY ICHIRO TAKENAKA

lchiro Takenaka is the son of Dr. Katsuo Takenaka, a member of the Upper House of the Japanese Diet. Dr. Takenaka is a leading figure in the Social Democratic Party of Japan and the Japanese Fellowship of Reconciliation.

THERE is nothing in the current and past Japanese Diet sessions more ridiculous than the argument on the definition of war potential.

Despite the Diet recess, the foreign mairs committee of the House of Representatives is continuing to meet in order to study the Government's plan for strengthening defence. The committee's efforts are of particular importance at this time when the Government, revising its past attitude, has a plan to increase the National Safety Force by 20,000 to 40,000 men and has also expressed its wish to entrust the NSF with the duty of repelling direct external aggression.

It is regrettable therefore that due to frequently ambiguous replies by Government representatives, the core of the problem has failed to be touched. In this respect, an hereasing tendency has been noted of late among Government representatives in high Positions to blame newspapers for "misquotathen whenever any statement made by them urns into an issue. We can only ask that such an attitude be abandoned and that Government leaders be more responsible for the state-

# Conservative viewpoint

The defence subcommittee of the Progres-live Party (one of the Conservatives) had leached a conclusion that possession of war Polential for the purpose of self-defence is not a violation of Article 9 of the State Conabutton. The Social Democratic Party and the leformists find this opinion hard to under-

The Progressive Party's new interpretation, which is said to have been studied by a group of party scholars headed by Dr. Ichiro Kiyose, the Constitution as permitting self-nce. They consider that if an aggressor is delender should be provided with cqual armaments, the ments. Consequently, if the Progressives' heory is carried out further, it will mean in age of atomic bombs and hydrogen bombs because of the fear that such weapons be used, Japan too should possess Aombs and H-bombs.

The preamble to the Japanese Constitution

Desiring peace for all time and fully conscious of the high ideals controlling human lelationship, we have determined to rely for security and survival upon the process of the faith of the peace-loving peoples of the

If modern armaments are to be permitted the name of self-defence, it is equivalent to pan feeling that she can no longer "rely for turity and survival upon the justice and faith of the peace-loving peoples of the

### NDIA HESITATES ON CONSCRIPTION

By MARK SUNDER-RAO

ot accept, save in the unlimited in India's House of the People (Assembly) is utterly impotent to presented the anomaly of former Gandhi presented the anomaly of former Gandh Deputy Defense Minister, Satis Chandra, and that the cost would be prohibitive, and paints made by proponents were uncon-

Currently, almost 45,000 students between Bges of 15 and 26 are being given semiages of 15 and 20 are being government the government honsored National Cadet Corps scheme, lich is purely optional. The cost runs to 100,000 rupees annually. A universal train-Plan, for 2,500,000 boys, would cost nearly be 000,000 rupees annually—or as much as Damodar Valley Corporation, one of the gest land reclamation projects in the world. The debate was inconclusive, but observers



JAPANESE TROOPS IN ACTION Will the world see this again?

Prime Minister Yoshida and the Liberal Party have so far maintained the attitude that there will be no rearmament and that it is therefore unnecessary to amend the Constitution. They have maintained that "war potential is overall power to use modern armaments effectively" and that anything short of such power is not an infringement of the Constitu-

Deputy Prime Minister Taketora Ogata has said that atomic bombs cannot be war potential unless they are employed in war. He apparently believes nothing is war potential unless it is actually used in war. Foreign Minister Katsuo Okazaki has said war potential means capabilities to wage war "independently" of aggression. It is evident that they were referring to the character of the National Safety Force which in the eyes of almost everybody except the Government is a virtual, if not complete, army.

## Pressure from U.S.?

It may be that the Government has hitherto been over-optimistic regarding the defence problem but is no longer able to conceal the true facts from the public. It should be recognised clearly that Mutual Security Aid is military aid. The Government acts on the assumption that it can secure economic aid in some way through MSA aid.

Why has the Government changed its attitude? The people's attention has been centered of late on repeated warnings by prominent Americans that Japan's defence is insufficient and that Japanese economy is spending too much on unnecessary things. In some quarters there is the suspicion that the Government's change of attitude has been due to American pressure. Such suspicion can only abet the Communists' attempts to arouse anti-American feeling.

As for the fact mentioned above, our Social Democratic Party has been opposed to both the Progressives' and the Liberals' interpretations. Because rearmament which will absorb a quarter of the national income, will surely lead to the destruction of Japanese economy fundamentally. Consequently, the indepen-dence of the Nation and the peace of Asia and the world, would surely be menaced. Such opportunistic attitudes have the danger of impairing the dignity of the Constitution, the highest law of the land. Instead of making efforts to amend the Constitution, both parties bect the proposal to be dropped, since the soem to be spending their time in mere interpretation."

### TO TALK ON "FRIENDSHIP HOUSE"

ESLIE and Wanda Hayman, of "Friendand wanda Hayman, or Friend-thip House" ("Das Freundshafthseim") Ocke in Germany are passing through Ingland, on their way to a lecture tour in USA after which Leslie Hayman is to unie his work as a Methodist Minister in

They are to speak on the work at Friend-House, with coloured slides, at the winds International Centre, 32 Tavistock Sq. d on Wed., Oct. 14, at 7.30 p.m. They especially like to meet former volunand any who would like to visit Friend-House next year.

Hilda von Klenze writes: Leslie and Wanda haman's successors at the "Freundschaftwill be Jim Relyea who is later to be bined by Gunnar Sundberg. Since his in New Zealand.

retirement Pastor Mensching, founder of the friendship centre, has also been able to give more time to it.

The "Freundschaftsheim" owes a very real debt of gratitude to Leslie and Wanda Hayman for their devoted work during the first and sometimes stormy years of its existence.

The fact that it developed from a single Nissen hut to a stately building and from a tentative venture to a firmly established institution is not less due to their untiring efforts.

The centre's many friends in Germany and abroad will be sorry to see them go, but their best wishes for a happy future will accompany Leslie and Wanda Hayman to their new home

# How young America sees Europe

ECTURER in Law at King's College, London, Mr. Norman St. John-Stevas, writing in the Daily Telegraph reports some of his impressions of young Americans visiting

Mr. St. John-Stevas was invited to serve as a lecturer on board a ship carrying 800 under-graduates on their first trip to Europe. Other fecturers came from West European countries. Their function was to prepare the travellers for their introduction to the Continent.

Summing up attitudes, the writer says:

"Gregariousness is the quality which most strikingly distinguishes American from European students. Such an attitude has both advantages and disadvantages. Lame ducks are made to fly, while in English universities the tendency is for them to become lamer and lamer and finally complete cripples.

"A less attractive aspect of this attitude is the complete inability to retire from the crowd. A withdrawal to one's cabin for a period of more than 15 minutes would end in a barrage of anxious inquiries as to the state of one's health. It is from this communal life that the uniformity of outlook

#### ENTHUSIASM FOR KNOWLEDGE

"Enthusiasm for gathering knowledge was universal and infectious. Apart from the censeless private conversations, discussions and debates, the business of imparting information was carried out by means of panels. A set speech of about 10 minutes from each member of the panel precedes the answering of questions.

"An American student audience knows no inhibitions; any and every question is asked, with no attempt made to show subtlety or conceal ignorance. A barrage of questions is kept up from the opening of the session to its

The political sentiment of the students was overwhelmingly liberal. They were united in condemning Senator McCarthy and were horrified to hear of the notoriety which he had gained in Europe and the harm he had done to Anglo-American relations,

"Their attitude to Communism was very much more clear-cut than the average European's, and showed the typical American tendency to over-simplify. American policy on the recognition of Red China received scant support and there was general agreement that the British policy was more fruitful.

"I was struck by the national self-consciousness of the students, their continual self-examination and self-criticism, and their acute awareness of America's shortcomings, A problem which agitated everybody was why America, who had done so much for Europe, should be increasingly unpopular."

# Worker-Priests experiment to end?

From a Correspondent

A MONG hopeful experiments of recent years has been one by a group of Roman

Catholic priests in France,
These men, having finished their theological training, took jobs in factories and workshops so that they might fully identify themselves with the workers. They have tried to break through the class character of the Church and show the workers that the Christian religion has a message for them.

It is occasionally possible to encounter these men in the evening rush-hour on the Paris Metro returning home with the dust of their work upon them. Their evenings they spend in works of devotion among the working-class

populations of their parishes.

The experiment is now meeting with the disapproval of the French Hierarchy and the Vatican. The Seminary at Limoges for the training of such priests has now been informed that its priests are no longer to be permitted to take jobs in factories.

#### IDENTITY WITH WORKING CLASS

These worker-priests have clearly been subject to special risks and they have doubtless made some mistakes. They have sought to make themselves one with their fellows in their aims and aspirations, and as the working-class movement in France is so largely Communist some of the priests, while not becoming Communists, have arrived at a sympathetic understanding of the factors that have made Communists of their working-class comrades.

Two of these priests were badly beaten by the police after being arrested when the police attacked a working class demonstration in the streets last May, and although the incident was followed by an apology by the Prefect, it seems to have been one of the factors that

have led to the present decision.

If this inspiring experiment in Christian love is to be brought to an end it is greatly to be regretted.

#### SOVIET NAVAL BASE ABANDONED

From a Correspondent

N Peace News for September 11, we published an account of the cessation of the policy of militarisation in East Germany that had followed the events of June 16. Our correspondent now informs us that there has been a considerable change of policy in regard to the island of Ruegen, in the Haltic.

A powerful Soviet naval base had been

planned for this island. It would have been the farthest-west strong point. There were rumours that the inhabitants of the island

were to be evacuated, and about 1,000 prisoners were set to work on the island.

This plan has apparently now been given up. The 1,000 men have been sent away. The people of the island are not now to be evacuated. evacuated.

#### OCT. 9, 1953, PEACE NEWS-3 VINOBA BHAVE INJURED

A CHARYA VINOBA BITAVE and three other people were injured in an attack by a group of orthodox Brahmin priests as they led a party of untouchables into the ancient temple of Baidyanath at Deoghar near Patna,

capital of Bihar State this week.
Vinoba Bhave is walking throughout India appealing for land gifts for distribution to the landless. Mahatma Gandhi had the same experience at this temple 20 years ago. Mr. Gandhi said then that until untouchables were allowed into the temple, Deoghar (which means "abode of God") "will belie us holy name."

#### Christian leaders support Bhoodan Yagna

Kottayam, India.

A CHARYA VINOBA BHAVE'S "Bhoodan Yagna" (Land Gift Sacrifice) Movement has received support from the heads of the indigenous churches located in the south eastern coastal strip of India, commonly known as the Kerala region. In a joint statement to the Protestant and Syrian Christians in this part of the country the bishops urge them to counter the violence of the Communists with the love and non-violence basic to the Land Gift Movement.

Nearly a million and a half acres of land have now been distributed through the appeals of Vinoba Bhave for voluntary gifts. This is in contrast to some 30,000 acres distributed by Indian Communists in places where they have

sufficient political power.

The signatories to the statement endorsing Vinoba lihave were the hishops of the Mar Thoma Syrian Church, the Malankara Jacobite Syrian Church, the Knana Syrian Church and the Kottayam diocese of the Church of South India. Among them they reckon nearly a fourth of the entire non-Catholic Christian population of the country,

Considerable importance attaches to this open move on the part of the bishops because no other church prelates have so far come out thus in support of the Land Gift Movement on their own initiative. Besides, the Christian elements in this part of India, which comprises Malabar and Travancore-Cochin states, are among the wealthiest in the nation. The ancient churches count among their members many influential proprietors of large

# YOUR WORLD LAST WEEK

BELGIAN CONGO: White settlers in the Congo are opening up their clubs and organisations to Africans and encouraging them to join. More important, perhaps, the authorities have decreed that hereafter Africans may buy land of their own, something hitherto impossible.

FRANCE: Lord Ismay, the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, said that the construction of new athleids for NAIO fortice was going forward at the rate of one per week. Gas hundred and twenty airlields would be ready by the end of 1953.

INDIA: India is building its first atomic pile and expects to have it in operation within two or three years. Dr. J. Bhabha, chairman of the Indian Atomic Energy Commission, said that the whole effort would be devoted to peaceful purposes.

INDO-CHINA: The United States is to grant France appplementary aid up to £135 m, before the end of next year for the war in Indo-China.

MALAYA: More than half a million Chinese and Malay people have been removed from their homes to "resettlement areas" during the present campaign.

SOUTH APRICA: Dr. Malan said South Africa could abolth the momerchy, i.e., become a republic with a majority of one vote in Parliament. He said it remained to be seen how long the country could stay by the United Nations.

USA: The Washington correspondent of the Daily Telegraph reports that there are indica-tions that America is fast approaching the time when hydrogen bombs can be made on assem-bly line principles. "After initial complications, it seems that they may be easier to produce than atom bombs."



THE Labour Peace Fellowship bookstall in the Winter Gardens at Margate which attracted the attention of many Labour Party Confer-ence delegates was staffed and organised by Peace News at the request of the LPF. Hundreds stopped to sign

the No Conscription Council's petition which was displayed there and to browse through the wide range of peace literature which was on show.

Best sellers were the report of the Quaker Mission to Moscow and pamphlets by Donald Soper, Michael Scott, Emrys Hughes and Harold Wilson, and, of course, Peace News.

The ability of Peace News, through its own

bookshop, to provide a bookstall to peace organisations is something of incalculable value to the peace movement in this country.

It is one of the things which contributors to the Peace News Fund help to preserve.

Although sales at Margate totalled £22, the margin of profit does not cover the expenses involved in carriage, fares and staff time, and the cost of the many bundreds of ertainly not the cost of the many hundreds of

Peace News leaflets given away.
Will you help, through a contribution to the Peace News Fund, in ensuring that our bank balance does not suffer as a result of this most worthwhile activity I HUGH BROCK.

Contributions since Sept. 25: £40 15s. 4d. Total since Jan. 1, 1953: £1,100 0s. 9d. An anonymous donation of 10s, is gratefully acknow-ledged from West Kirby.

Please make cheques, etc., payable to Peace News Ltd., and address them to Vera Brittain, Treasurer, Peace News, 3 Blackstock Rd., NA.

## Peace workers and capital punishment By ELLEN STARR BRINTON

PPOSITION to the death penalty as punishment for violent crime has been a feature of the platforms of the peace movement ever since the first pacifist organisation in 1815.

Human life has been considered sacred and the taking of it a violation of Christian principles, and civilised standards of ethics. Thus sooner or later the early societies organised against international warfare found it necessary to include also opposition to the duel and laws which prescribed death for those committing certain crimes.

Duelling has gone. Public sentiment against legal executions of crimminals has grown steadily in the past 125 years, and the leaders in the crusade have been men and women closely identified with peace

Conspicuous in the present year was an appeal sent out by The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom from its Cieneva office to the Governments of ninetyseven countries and to hundreds of organisations, periodicals, and newspapers. It stated that from the inception of the League in 1915 it had believed that no authority was entitled to sentence a human being to death.

The statement referred to the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and declared that capital punishment violates this principle in both, and contributes to the brutalization of the mind of

Since the recent sensational dual execution of the Rosenbergs in the United States on the charge of treason, and of Christie in England on multiple charges of murder, the question of the merits and the demerits of capital punishment has become again a live

A brief review of the present attitudes of governments and people toward the death penalty compared with those of the past generations shows some striking changes. In England in 1780 there were 240 offences punishable by death, and these included stealing of bread and fishing in the wrong stream. By 1820 the list had been reduced to 160 crimes. Laws in 1822 reduced the number precipitately to 60, and by 1885 only three offences were designated as deserving the death penalty murder, piracy, and treason.

The attitude of Quakers may have helped to prevent excesses in the New World, William Penn set a precedent when he established in Pennsylvania his "Great Act" of 1682 and prescribed the death penalty only for premedilated murder. However the hanging and burning of witches and "heretics" in New England is part of the early history of America, and hanging of horse thieves in the western states was a general practice until the late decades of the nineteenth century.

It is possible to trace the development of the thinking of peace groups in England and the United States through their monthly and quarterly bulletins, issued almost from their origin in 1815-1816. The societies were all against war, but only gradually did they learn of the conflicts that lead to war and of the after consequences,

N July 1840, the London Peace Society printed its annual report in its Herald of Peace, and an important section was on the subject of the death penalty.

We can report a happy change which public opinion has undergone in regard to

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capital punishment. Very few took any interest thirty years ago. Now the desire for abolition is almost universal.

In the United States the subject had been debated for years in a comparable group—the American Peace Society. Willam Ladd, the Secretary, a conscientious peace worker and the great organiser from 1829 till his death in 1842, felt that bringing other issues than war into the society distracted attention and defeated "the intentions of the founder." The disagreement finally came to a head in 1846 when nine important leaders of the American Peace Society withdrew their support. Fore-most among these was Elihu Burritt, "The Learned Blacksmith" of Connecticut, who had been living in England for several years and working with outstanding peace leaders there. Their public statement carried this pronounce-ment: "The position of some of us on capital punishment is said to injure the American Peace Society; so we retire, and resign our offices." The signers included the president, the editor of the bulletin, Advocate of Peace, the treasurer, and other important leaders.

THE ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Sceience for November 1952, is devoted entirely to "Murder and the Death Penalty."

One of the authors, writing on the history of the abolition movement in the United States, makes many references to writings of early peace leaders. John Howard, the English prison reformer for whom the Howard Prison Society is named, is given credit for striking the first spark. The first reasoned argument in America against capital punishment was said to have stemmed from a paper read in 1787 by Dr. Benjamin Rush at the home of Benjamin Franklin.

Then followed other essays devoted to the peace question, and including abolition of Capital Punishment by distinguished American clergymen and college professors, published in pamphlet or book form, in 1818, 1836, 1845. Alfred H. Love, founded the Universal Peace Union in Philadelphia in 1868, and for over forty years carried on a vigorous campaign for world peace and against the death penalty. He may not have converted more than a fraction of the membership of his organisation but he never faltered in his attitude. As early as 1883 he addressed the National Prison Society on abolishing capital punishment. He was appointed an official visitor to the nearby state penitentiary, and kept up these activities as long as he lived.

IN another article in the same copy of The Annals is an analysis of current trends regarding capital punishment. They were influenced by the conflict between the world growth in humanitarianism, and the increasing political pressure in many areas on minority groups and individuals who do not conform in leed and in thinking to the national party

The author, Peter P. Lejins, formerly of Latvia, and now teaching at the University of Maryland, calls attention to the fact that the movement to abolish capital punishment, while growing in regard to non-political offences, seems to be almost halted in political offences. Some countries have now given up capital punishment entirely for murder and other civil crimes, and yet there is evidence of tremendous increase in outright executions, and veiled methods of exterminating persons for political and divergent political views. He considers that "the cause of abolition loses force and popular appeal if the group is worrying over a few dozen lives, when millions are being put to death the world over in slower and less spectacular ways."

There seems to be a well-established trend in many countries to decrease the list of offences for which the death penalty is mandatory by law. According to historic records Russia first abolished capital punishment in 1753-54, and thus became the earliest in the western world to make such a decree, Some countries have had no executions for a long time. In other countries, and in some states in the United States of America, a wave of humanitarianism would serve to do away with the death penalty regardless of offence, and then some particularly publicised crime would occur which roused public opinion to again demand death in retaliation. Such reverses of law have taken place several times.

A CCORDING to a report of the Howard League for Penal Reform, issued in September, 1950, these 15 European countries do not now have any death penalty for ordinary criminal offenders. Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Billand, Helland, Lealand, Lealand, Lealand Denmark, Finland, Holland, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Roumania, Sweden, Switzerland, USSR, Western Germany.

Ecuador and Uruguay are completely free from the death penalty even for treason and military offences. These countries have abolished capital punishment for ordinary criminal offences: Argentine, Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Panama, Peru, Venezuela

# Mr. Noel-Baker is worried

Thinks conscript lads should be better informed BY THE EDITOR

MR. PHILIP NOEL-BAKER has written an article in the Daily Herald because he is disturbed about a number of things. He is disturbed about the perfunctory attitude of the British Government to the working of the United Nations, and here we have every sympathy with him; he is disturbed because no trouble has been taken to see that the young lads who were sent to Korea were instructed in the official account of what they were fighting about, and here we think he is being dangerously naive; and he is also disturbed about a comment that a young soldier made to him about why the fighting went on so long.

This lad had said to him:

"But if you want to know why we were made to stay there, why the fighting went on so long, I can tell you that one. We found out not long ago that just south of the 28th Parallel there's a uranium deposit, and, of course, the Americans were going to make damned sure that THAT stayed in their hands instead of falling to the Chinese.

Now this story, says Mr. Noel-Baker, is an invention. It may be "soldiers' chatter," or it "may be one more Communist trick." Mr. Noel-Baker knows this to be so because he has learned "on the very highest authority" that there is no uramum deposit in the Republic of

We think we can help Mr. Noel-Baker to an understanding of what has happened here. It must be remembered that many of the soldiers who engage in the chatter are little more than boys, and if there is some little garbling of the stories they pass on to each other it is hardly to be wondered at.

Now there is a story that there are valuable tungsten deposits in Korea, near the 38th parallel. Tungsten is a very valuable mineral that is used for hardening steel. It is required for jet planes, armour-piercing missiles and gun linings. In 1948 the world's total output of tungsten was 32,000 tons, of which China supplied 12,200. It will be realised then that the supply available from Korea has a certain military importance.

#### TUNGSTEN FOR U.S.

We published in Peace News last February a number of statements about tungsten in Korea of which we reproduce now that taken from the Mining Journal for January 9. This remarked that the richest tungsten mines

"are not far north of our present positions and a successful drive, say about 70 miles up the peninsula, would transfer possession to the allied side."

"It is true enough to say that tungsten supplies represent about the only material benefit which the United States is currently deriving from the leading part it is playing in UNO'S fight on the Korean peninsula. In this connection, a despatch which appeared last week in the Portland Oregonian is of considerable interest. In the first of a series of articles on Korea syndicated by the Chicago Sun-Times; Mr. Frederick Kuh writing from Pusan on December 29 gives the following facts which have apparently been released with UNO Command's approval:

"Tungsten is about the only material gain the United States is getting from its large military and economic commitment in Korea, Almost one half of South Korea's total exports, according to value, consists of tungsten, and the United States is enjoying a monopoly of these deliveries.

"During the past fiscal year, South Korea's total exports were worth about \$20,000,000, of which tungsten accounted for \$9,500,000. All of it went towards America's stockpile.

"American army engineers are reported to be supervising the working of the tung-sten mines near the front. In the past six or eight months, South Korea's output of this precious ore has been doubled. Exports to the US are steadily increasing. New mining equipment is expected further to enlarge output. With China's tungsten supply now available only to the Communist bloc, Korea's production is at a premium."

# CONSCRIPTS MUST

Noel-Baker would hold that the substitution that had occurred in the garbled version of the story that these boys were passing on really made much difference to the moral they were apparently drawing from it.

The main thing that troubled Mr. Noel-Baker was the fact that it had been nobody's business to see that this lad understood what the fighting was all about. He had been instructed about the fighting conditions, the climate, the mountains, and the enemy weapons and tactics, but nobody had held it to be necessary to see that he understood why the war was being waged.

It would appear that the present Govern-ment, like the Government that preceded it,

### That word "peace"

YOUNG man and his girl sat together on the top deck. She was obviously from Italy. She began to adjust a headscarve which had a peace slogan printed on it.

This somewhat unusual procedure called for comment: "Oh," he said, "you mustn't wear anything suggestive of peace here you know. They'll think you're a Communist or a crank or a fellow-traveller, or," pause, laughingly, "even a Christian."

#### THE CHURCH AND PEACE

A conference on the Church and peace is to be held in Detroit in December by the Church Peace Mission in preparation for the next general assembly of the World Council of Churches which is to take place in the USA at Evanstown III., in August next year.

regards this as a superfluity, and so "the mea most intimately concerned" are not given this understanding, a state of affairs that Noel-Baker finds rather shocking.

Perhaps those who decide that the briefly of these lads shall be confined to military matters, however, are more realistic than Mi Noel-Baker.

When the Government with which he when the Government with which was associated decided that the previous teachings of the Labour Party on the subject of conscription were outdated, and that the best people to be conscripted was lads of 18, who were not yet sufficiently mature to be expected to have an understanding of political matters that would warrant ing of political matters that would warrant their being permitted to vote, there was no stipulation in this legislation that the lad would only be asked to fight in causes of which they approved. This was not regards as their business. Their function was to be the instruments of a policy that others would decide upon. Even if, having been compelled to be soldiers, they were then to be given the to be soldiers, they were then to be given to instruction Mr. Noel-Baker holds to be desirable were the soldiers. able, we do not think he would suggest the they should be encouraged to express disset ment if they found themselves unconvinced still less do we think he would suggest they should be exempted from the job of lighting if they held there. fighting if they held the view that the case the had been presented to them did not make the feel that they would be justified in engaging in the killing of make the case. in the killing of men.

#### ONLY FOR FREE MEN

Without such freedom in the expression of their views and in founding their actions of what they believe, any such briefing as Mr. Noel-Baker is urginal to the such briefing as Mr. Noel-Baker is urging would be just a proving of "conditioning" and we have too much respect for Mr. Noel-Baker's record qualities to think that this is what he would like to see

Free discussion is for free men. Conscient have ceased to be free men. What Mr. Not Baker is advocating is the introduction of considerable instalment of totalitarian procedures. He should think again.

## A FARMER'S LOG BOOK

THE recorded death rate from bovine mber culosis in this country is in the 2,000 l year mark. The figure is startling. So much that the Gevernment has at last decided take action and has decreed that all mi producers must be attested by 1956. Furthermore, in the event of farms with non-attested berds changing bands that the state of the sta herds changing hands, the herd must become attested within three months.

Now I have no doubt that this is xcellent plan, indeed it is a reform long over due, and in any case there is little satisfaction in knowing that the food you are strugglish to produce may be causing disease and evel death. Nevertheless it has been a big headache on this farm.

NOT THINK

Uranium and tungsten are very different and somethings. We do not think, however, that Mr. (wel-Baker would hold that the substitution)

We took over from the previous owner non-attested Friesian herd; 30 milking commendates and 29 young stock and followers, plus somewhat contrary bull! They were not somewhat contrary bull! They were not somewhat contrary bull! good herd. The average milk yield was under three gallons, ridiculously low for this breen no doubt we would have sold many of the in any case and the forest the sold many of the sold ma in any case, and the first thing we did was to have them examined and to get rid of dozen reactors. The main problem has been the buildings. the buildings.

These are so far from the required standard as to require very costly alterations. To make a thorough job of it with a view to selling the present herd and building up a pedigree attested herd of Guernseys, we would have spend about five or six thousand pounds.

Alternatively we could have a parlour quite cheaply. Under this scheme the would actually be housed in the present should actually be housed in the present should actually be housed in a separate building. Since it is the housing conditions give rise to disease in the animals it is difficult to understand how this routine satisfies the authorities.

Finally we have hit upon a plan that seem to be the answer to our problems; the half system. Here the cattle bed out, winter summer, and the bail, a sort of minarity movable milking partour, is brought out them in the fields. It is a completely self-contained unit, with a dairy at one end and all latest equipment. There is an immense saying of time with them since there is no much out and washing down and all the rest of the saying the

Herein, however, lies its one drawback, there is no dungheap to draw on for compounding, and all the manure goes back raw the pastures. I am convinced that, if possible it is far better for all dung to return to the soil via the compost heap.

Michael Randle

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superfluity, and so "the men oncerned" are not given this state of affairs that Mt rather shocking.

vho decide that the briefing ill be confined to milian are more realistic than Mr.

vernment with which he decided that the previous iption were outdated, and ple to be conscripted were were not yet sufficiently ected to have an understand matters that would warrant itted to vote, there was no is legislation that the lads isked to fight in causes ved. This was not regarded Their function was to be the policy that others would n if, having been compelled y were then to be given the oel-Baker holds to be design think he would suggest that couraged to express disagree and themselves unconvinced hink he would hink he would suggest unexempted from the job of ld the view that the case that to them did not make then uld be justified in engaging

### OR FREE MEN

reedom in the expression a founding their actions on , any such briefing as Mi ing would be just a process and we have too much Noel-Baker's record and that this is what he would

is for free men. Conscript free men. What Mr. No. ng is the introduction of lment of totalitarian pro I think again.

## ARMER'S BOOK

eath rate from bovine tuber country is in the 2,000 pagure is startling. So much has decreed that all mile attested by 1956. Further of farms with non-attested nds, the herd pour hands nds, the herd must become ree months.

10 doubt that this is all sed it is a reform long over ise there is little satisfaction he food you are struggling e causing disease and even s it has been a big headach

rom the previous owner an herd; 30 milking cous ock and followers, plus y bull! They were not rerage milk yield was under sulously low for this breed ld have sold many of them he first thing we did was used and to get rid of the ned and to get rid of the he main problem has book

from the required standard costly alterations. To make it with a view to selling the building up a pedigion ucroseys, we would have

six thousand pounds. could have a parlour built could have a parlour output this scheme the con-housed in the present sheds, the atime, in a separate building the housing conditions the in the animals it is dimenting the continuous that the country are the continuous that the country is the country t v this routine satisfies be

hit upon a plan that se to our problems; the ball cattle bed out, winter bail, a sort of minatur parlour, is brought out parlour, is brought out it is a completely self-condairy at one end and all the chere is an immense saving since there is no mucking.

own and all the rest of lies its one drawbar manure goes back raw convinced that, if possible call dung to return to

st heap. Michael Randle

# BOOKS

## Conscript's account

Fought in Korea, by Julian Funstall, Lawrence and Wishart, 8s. 6d.

I'lls is a young conscript's account of his is our laddie? experiences and of what he observed in the course of his nine months of the first year of the war in Korea as a private in the British contingent in the UN forces.

It seems, however, to have been written a war later, after he has apparently associated a good deal with persons opposed to that war for reasons other than those which caused his own revulsion. Nevertheless, when he keeps to his own experience and the results of his own direct observation (as he fortunately does for the greater part of the book) his account convincingly authentic.

It is to be hoped that potential readers will not be put off by the generalisations and the records of things he could not have seen for hinself in the first two chapters. For if other conscripts are not to find themselves in Korea extend the sadistic rule of Rhee over the whole peninsular it is important that many more people in this country than those who altend Moscow-sponsored peace conferences or, for that matter, read Peace News) should be deeply convinced of the realities of what

has been happening in Korea. This book, too, makes clear that his nondan allies are in no way qualified to cast he first stone at Rhee. Indeed any one who that it need have no doubts as to why the In need have no doubts as to way intervention in Korea has been so effeclive in spreading and deepening anti-Westernin spreading and deepening and throughout Asia. The publication is most timely just when efforts are being made to camouflage the truth with false heroics—to say nothing of counter-atrocity mongering. Buy this bookand oven more important—pass it on to the A-yet-unconvinced!

#### LEONARD TOMKINSON.

# Meditations

bedside Manna by Frank Moyle. Dakers 8s. 6d.

FRANK MOYLE'S pacifism is not plain in his book of meditations, but there is much Rood sense and effective quotations.

We are reminded of the young Pharaoh of the 14th century B.C. who "believing that all beneath the sun are members of one family, Probably the sun are members of one family, Prohibited the use of military force, even in defence of his empire."

Moyle exposes the illogicality of wicked thing to destroy empty church building than houses inhabited by human beings" and a bishop who declared "the destruction of a bishop who declared the bisho of a bishop who declared the destroy

loss of human lives." He quotes Jeremy Taylor on the God of an imperfect world Blake: "If you avenge, you murder the divine image and are blind

The war of 1939-45, the Rector of Allesley laddie?"

concludes "was due to human stupidity and sin." RONALD S. MALLONE

# Mow green

Jungle Green, by Arthur Campbell. George Allen and Unwin, 12s. 6d.

Price was saying "I can't make it out, see, that Padre bloke talkin' about Christian peace and the next minute we 'ave to go off killin' these bastard Chinamen."

THE contradictions which bothered Price, the conscript, seem to give little concern to his company commander, Major Arthur Campbell MC, author of "Jungle Green" (George Allen, and Unwin).

Major Campbell is a regular soldier. His present mission in Malaya is to "kill bandits," and if ever the country's problems are solved by such means, one would not be surprised to meet him doing the same thing at a later date in Egypt or Kenya. Killing is the Major's business and business is doing fine.

Like his 19th century forbears, the author uses the word "Chinaman" when he refers to a Chinese, speaks of Japan's "hordes of httle yellow soldiers," of a Malayan Court as an "untidy mess of brown skin," and even "all these niggers" creeps into the dialogue.

General Templer has said of "Jungle freen," "This book is authentic," while Green," "This book is aumented. "General Sir Brian Horrocks said with more intended perhaps, "This relevance than was intended, perhaps, is the outward sign of the new Elizabethan

It is indeed valuable material for the argument of all working for peace and a new healthy social order, and particularly those who advocate the abolition of conscription.

The story of jungle patrol and ambush throws into relief all the qualities of selfsacrifice and heroism so necessary for the building of a war-free world. But in the jungle . . . Heroism for what ?

We get not the slightest hint of the social and economic causes of Malayan unrest. A single sentence, so frank and unexpected, gives admirable explanation of the Malayan war: Rubber was the main product of this

country for which we were fighting. As for self-sacrifice the following needs no comment:

"The hell of it is that his (a seriously wounded conscript's) father was killed by a bomb in the war, and his eldest brother in Tunisia. He's the only one whom his mother had left."

The death of every conscript in Malaya adds neither a button nor a grain of rice to the well-being of the country. Major Campbell's book is propaganda for war and "the-greater-love-hath-no-man" banner of imperialism. I think many a parent of a conscript in Malaya will put down this book with the thoughtful question "How green is our laddie?"

L. REID-COLLINS.

# Letters

Our "Challenge to Britain" IF the Peace Pledge Union claims to have an alternative policy for preserving peace, should it not be presented in documentary form as a "Challenge to Britain?"

I think that the luture of the pacifist movement depends largely on its ability to translate its principles into political terms. If pacifism is to be understood as something more than just a refusal to fight, then should we not have a programme and a practical policy which is realistic as well as utopian?

Otherwise, we too, like the Labour Party's document, will be criticised as being evasive and failing to "satisfy people who are not just content with generalities and platitudes."

# RAYMOND BONIFACE.

50 Osborne Road, Southampton,

# Germ warfare

IT is extremely important that the germ war-fare campaign should be understood in its proper perspective.

Careful study of available evidence has led me to the conviction that it was from first to last a gigantic fabrication with the warlike purpose of mass incitement to hatred.

Was there not already a tendency among some coloured peoples to regard themselves as the white man's guinea pigs e.g., as vic-turns of the first atom bombs? Could anything be simpler than to inflate and spread this sentiment, however ill-founded, by grue-some accounts of the "white imperialists" latest violence—i.e., bacteriological warfareagainst coloured peoples? After all, it would not be the first time that racialism has been recruited as a legitimate and potent instrument in the cause of political solidarity. And that the medical defences against afleged germ warfare inaugurated a much needed drive for personal and national hygiene throughout China is also noteworthy.

The chief propaganda objective of the campaign is set out clearly in the following quota-tion from the "Medical Worker" published in Moscow on May 25, 1952:

The devilish inventiveness of the decadent American research workers knows no bounds. They cultivate milliards of plague and choleta bacteria, methods for spreading rate and chronic diseases. The cammbalistic theories of the modern diseases. The campbalistic theories of the modern followers of mallins have already been applied in practice—the batteriological weapon has already been used against the long-suifering soil of Korea.

Naturally no reference is here made to Marshal Voroshilov, who stated in 1938:

HRussia is prepared and fully prepared to use bacteriological weapons against any nation that uses them against her."

In your issues of September 25 and October 2 editorial references were made to this whole question-incidentally with too selective treatment of the forthright repudiation made by the returned "witnesses." But my point is this: in rightly condemning the criminality of

war and its issues, you have revived one of those issues, namely, the germ warfare allega-tions, and you fail to add your condemnation of its purpose or even its indisputable effect. This, I repeat, was primarily to consolidate as many millions as possible on a basis of hatred against America and Britain. Here is sheer moral aggression and spiritual violence of the most sinister kind. It should be recognised as such by all pacifists and peace-lovers. It should be condemned as such, too, by those interested in condemning criminality. And the multitude of folk genuinely concerned about world peace should not forget the pristing vigour with which so many of the Communist movements entered into this orgy of lusty loathing, and they should contrast this attitude with the brotherly love so fondly professed and so crudely and grossly per-

the Editor

OCT. 9, 1953, PEACE NEWS-5

#### LESLIE G. D. SMITH, Director.

The National Peace Council, 29 Great James Street,

W.C.1

## Towards sanity

TVIDENTLY Dr. Comfort (Peace News Oct. 2) regards the world political scene as lunacy. So do most of the people 1 know; what they lament is that they do not know what to do about it.

Dr. Comfort's technique shows them. Widely used this would greatly strengthen the hands of responsible leaders in this country whose minds seem to run on the same lines as Dr. Comfort's. May I draw attention to a few specimen pronouncements by such leaders.

In an editorial "This Blessed Plot," the Listener (May 20, 1948) said:-

"To lead the world back or forward—to sanity is a task which calls for the highest statesmanship. But statesmanship as we understand it and those who practise it would be the first to admin the fact must find its basis if not its inspiration in the hearts and minds of the people; and the people of this country by temperament as well as tradition are well placed to provide such a basis—better placed it may be, than the peoples of less happy, less calmly disposed countries."

The same idea is in the mind of Sir Oliver Franks, for speaking at a Pilgrims Dinner at the Savoy Hotel, on December 16 last, he said that Britain had a great part to play in the effort to save the samty of the world.

The Home Secretary, Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, speaking in London on Feb. 28, 1953 at a conference on crime and punishment said :---

"This generation has to deal with the immense political and economic problem of trying to prevent the second half of the century from being as crazy as the first. It has also the moral problem of trying to give clear and simple standards to the young people who have to take the torch from us."

In this country, at any rate, the effort to save the sanity of the world is getting some-WILLIAM ARMSTRONG.

21 Brookland Rise, N.W.H.

# ARY

high this is a free service, we reserve the we high to select for publication notices sent in a nevertheless desire to make it as complete service as we reasonably can, and therefore we organisers of events to:

Send notices to arrive not later an Monday morning.

2. Include: Date, TOWN, Time, lace (hall, street); nature of event; heakers, organisers (and secretary's ddress)—preferably in that order and

REVIATIONS 1 Auglican Pacifist Fel-philip, APF; Fellowship of Reconciliation, Millian Peace Fellowship, MPF; Sidnal Peace Council, NPC; Peace with Council, PWC; Peace Piedge Union, Society of Friends, SoF.

Friday, October 9

BERRY 1 7.30 p.m.; Friends' Meeting House,
Helen's St. John Hoyland, MA, "Building

Releas St. John Hoyland, MA, "Building Sof, Valents Sof, Valents 1, 730 p.m.; YMCA, Albion Place, Britain, "Gandhi and creative peace-bittain," Chair, Caclr. Mrs. Happold, PPU.

Saturday, October 10
Lunck, Friam St. Rev. J. W. Eastwood, Area

cling. For For St. Rev. J. W. Eastwood. Area Cling. For St. Rev. J. W. Eastwood. Area Cling. For St. Social. 6.45 pm.; Open Cling. John Fletcher, CO Fellowship. Charles St. C.1. Rev. R. Hillington, The Community House, 214 pm.; Charles St. C.1. Rev. R. Hillington, The Community House, 214 pm.; Church of St. C. L. Rev. R. Hillington, The Community House, 214 pm.; Friends Flatt, 1771/NSTONE 1 3 p.m.; Friends Halt, 1771/NSTONE 1 3 p.m.; Friends 1 3 p.m.; Friend

WINDON t 3 p.m.; Sanford St. Cong. SOLUTIAMPTON 1 3.30 p.m.; Friends certa House, Ordnance Rd. Social, 6.30 p.m.; Denis Hayes. CO

NNEA t 3.30 p.m.; Friends' Meeting 200 fligh St. Social, 6.30 p.m.; Open ling. Rev. Basil Viney. CO Fellowship.

Sunday, October 11

MOTINGHAM: 8 p.m.; Friends' Meeting

See, Friar Lane, John Hoyland, MA.

MOTINGHAM: 8 p.m.; Friends' Meeting

See, Friar Lane, John Hoyland, MA.

MULL National Service Continue 7" SoF.

MULL PARK: 6 p.m.; Speakers' Corner,

Mulle Arch. Open-air meeting. PPU.

Monday, October 12 SMONDSEY 1 7.30 p.m.; 91 Bo

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LONDON, S.W.17: 7.45 p.m.; 18 Elmourne Rd. John Barclay, "Refugees, 1953." nourne Rd. John Barciay, "Refugees, 1953." Illus, by film. PPU, MANSFIELD 1 7,15 p.m.; Friends' Meeting House, Quaker Lane, John Hoyland, Public necting. SoF and Mansfield Peace Group.

Wednesday, October 14
LONDON, W.C.1: 7.30 p.m.; Friends' Int.
Centre, 32 Tavistock Sq. Lestie and Wanda
Hayman, "Peace-making in Germany."
Friendship House. Hon. Sec. British Committoc, W. R. Hughes, 35 Doulting, Shepton

Mallet, Som.

CROYDON: 8 p.m.; Adult School Hall, Park Lane. Prof. Norman Bentwich, "The place of Israel in the Near and Middle East," and Miss Lettice Jowitt, MBE, "The plight of Arab refugees," Women's International League.

Thursday, October 15

LEYTONSTONE: 8 p.m.; Friends' Meeting fouse, Bush Rd. Mr. Snook, "The drugless and to health." PPU.

road to health." PPU.

LONDON, W.C.11 7.30 p.m.; Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsteinh St. Joint meeting. Non-violent Resistance Group and the Non-violence Commission. PPU,

LONDON, W.C.21 7 p.m.; Rededication service. St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar St. John Ferguson. FoR.

LONDON, W.C.21 12.30 p.m.; Lincoln's Inn Fields. Open-air meeting. Sybil Morrison and Robert Hornman. PPU.

NOFTINGHAM 1 7.15 p.m.; Adult School, Friar Lane. John Hoyland, MA. CO Fellowship.

Friday, October 16

BIRMINGHAM 1 7 p.m.; Small Theatre,
Midland Inst., Paradise St. Dr., Konrad Braun,
German unity." Birmingham Peace Council.

CROYDON: 3.30-9 p.m.; Adult lall, Park Lane, Saturday afternoon market and jumble sale. Proceeds to Peace News. LONDON, W.C.2 1 3 p.m.; Trafalgar Sq.

Tuesday, October 20
BROADSTAIRS: 7.30 p.m.; Gymnasium
Hall, "Priormonut," High St. Clifford
Macquire, "Talking peace in Moscow," Thanet Peace Group.

Thursday, October 22
HAMMERSMITH a 8 p.m.; Datling Rd.
Methodist Schoot. Stuart Morits, "Bilis Island
—and beyond." PPU and Hammersmith Paci-

fist Group.

LEYTONSTONE 1 8 p.m.; Friends' Meeting House, Bush Rd. W. Pears (Commonwealth), "The struggle for bread." [PPU]
LONDON, W.C.2 1 12.30 p.m.; Lincoln's Inn Fields. Open-air meeting. Robert Horninan. [PPU]

Council.

Lincoln's Morrison District PP1).

Morrison R. School, Scattow.

L. School, Macquire. CO Fellowship.

Dellar. October 30 Friday, October 30 PLYMOUTH 1, 3.0 p.m.; Assembly Hall, Methodist Central Hall, Saltash St. Sir Richard Acland, MP, H. Leslie Kirkley, FoR.

Actand, MP, 11 Lesine Russey, Pers.

Saturday, October 31

LONDON, W.C.I. 7.30 p.m.; Mary Ward
Hall, Tavistock Place. Dick Shepparid Anniversary. Minnie Pathster, Reginald Reynolds,
Donald Soper, Refreshments from 6.30 p.m.
Piano solos by Colin Hetsley. PPU and Peace

LONDON, W.C.2 1 3 p.m.; Trafalgar Sq. End Conscription rally. J. L. Cuming, Stuart Morriso, Michael Randic. PPU. London, W.C.1 1 3 6 p.m.; Friends International Centre. Erle de Marc, "Morals, War and Money." Social Order Commission, PPU. Wickham. Folt.

# Sunday, October 18 HYDF PARK 1 o p.m.; Speakers' Corner, farbic Arch. Open-air meeting. PPU.

Friday, October 23
HULL 1 7.30 p.m.; Queens Hall, Kingsley-darpin, Canon Harmon, Chair, A. Horsley, A. "Peace," Tickets 6d. Hull Peace

Saturday, October 24.
LEXTONSTONE 1 7.30 p.m.; Friends' Meeting House, Bush Rd. The Rev. Michael Scott's im. "Civilisation on trial." Public meeting.

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Tayistock Su. Social Order Commission, PPU.

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End conscription!

TPHIS Autumn the Government's new "national service" legislation will be enacted. Parliament will have the opportunity

of bringing conscription in this country to an

end, or clamping it more firmly on to succeed-

It is therefore tremendously important that

the London anti-conscription rally in Trafalgar

Square, on Saturday October 17, should have

the active support of every available Peace News reader. We shall want PN sellers and literature distributors, and invite you to help

Preliminary selling at the approaches to the Square will be from 2 p.m., supplies available at the foot of St. Martins' steps.

From 3 p.m. onwards volunteers should report

to the east side of the plinth of Nelson's

THE WORLD IS

FILLING UP!

the population, such that for each individual

He was addressing the first meeting of a Seminar entitled "My Neighbour's Bread," organised by the Friends Peace Committee and

by the Friends' Industrial and Social Order

In the past the relationship between economic development and population in the back-

ward countries had remained balanced, he

explained. It was reckoned that four out of

every hundred died each year; four in every hundred were born each year. When trade and

communications increased in peacetime the

death rate fell to three per cent.; when epi-

demic diseases were controlled through medical

knowledge it fell further to two per cent.; when knowledge of child care was introduced into

died before reaching five years of age, the

death rate was brought down to one per cent If the birth rate remained stationary at four per

cent., this meant a population increase of three per cent.: the population would double itself

every 25 years. Such was the position in Ceylon and Puerto Rico today.

would soon be no standing room in the world at all," he continued.

this problem. One was the immediate intro-

duction of birth control clinics: a scheme which the lecturer described as "naive." Only

when increased educational facilities, a changed

status of women, and economic expansion had

been achieved would family limitation become popular and voluntary birth control become a

The second suggestion was that production should be increased faster than the increase of

In some countries this might be achieved by increasing the amount of land under production, i.e., America, Russia, Canada, Australia

and the Gold Coast. In other countries, such

as India where there was an average of only three-quarters of an acre per person, more use

would have to be made of land already under

cultivation by the use of better fertilisers, pesticides and by making more water available to the soil. The lecturer here drew the

attention of the meeting to the Etawah experi-ment in India where, in the course of three years, agricultural production had been

The lecturer said that what was needed was

not private foreign investment, which might

help small-scale industry and mining, but that capital should be made available from Government to Government, Only so could the extension of public services needed at the

present stage—educational facilities, communi-cations, electric power stations and irrigation schemes—he achieved.

The money and materials which could be absorbed at the present stage could be found, said the speaker. We could find £12,000 million for armaments; given the same sense of urgency the world's needs could be met.

practical solution.

increased 30 per cent.

population.

"If population increased at that rate there

Two suggestions were made for overcoming

backward countries mean an increase in

Circulation last week, 11,100 copies,

ing generations.

with these jobs.

Column.

# MR. ATTLEE AND **OVERCOA**

MR. ATTLEE remarked at the Labour Party Conference at Margate that we could not immediately agree to disarm because Russia had shewn signs of appearing to be more reasonable. It was not very wise, he said, to take off your overcoat because the sun showed signs of coming out on a cold day.

So we must keep on our overcoat. Even to unbutton it before we are quite sure summer has arrived would be taking risks.

Poreigners must now surely realise that British politicians are very careful about pre-cautions against the weather. Neville Cham-berlain carried his umbrella and now Mr. Attlee sticks to his overcoat. It is warm, it protects you from wind and cold, in it you feet comfortable.

#### No enthusiasm for arms

I have often heard armaments described as the shield but I have never heard the analogy of the overcoat before.

When the Russians hear this they will say: "Of course we would be the last persons in the world to want to deprive Mr. Attlee of his overcoat, but we need ever so much more protection against the snow in Russia than they do in Britain. Why does Mr. Attlee want us to take off our fur coats before he starts unbuttoning his overcoat?"

Now these little analogies can be very comfortable and rather deceptive. They are soothing, especially at Labour Party conferences where there is never any real enthusiasm for big armaments.

If Mr. Attlee had said "We must not cut our expenditure on atom bombs and heavy jet bombers nor any of our plans for obli-terating the Russian towns and cities if they start a war" it would not have gone down

That would have been stating the position accurately and realistically, for Mr. Attlee's overcoat is as little relevant to the truth about modern war as is the Archbishop of Canterbury's "Sword of God" or Sir John Anderson's brown paper.

But let us take up Mr. Attlee's analogy Does not our rearmament programme resemble a strait-jacket more than an overcoat?

is it not hampering British industry? In fact that is what Challenge to Britain says it does. It prevents the expansion of our engineering industries, vital if we are to increase our export trade.

We would not increase our production much if we all worked in our overcoats. And it is a very heavy overcoat, this huge annual national expenditure to which we are committed if we decide that we must go on spending £1,500,000,000 a year on defence.

#### Will Labour take a stand?

I fervently hope that we will have a Labour Government at the next election and that a Labour Chancellor of the Exchequer will be

at the dispatch box next Budget Day.

But if he says: "We can't cut our arms expenditure this year because of the Russians, or the Chinese. We must not relax," then this time next year we won't see the restoration of the cuts in the health services or the reduction in the cost of living or more houses and schools that the Labour Party

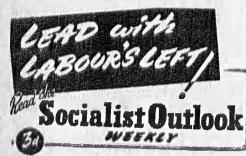
called for at Margate.
What will be the position next March when the Service Ministers come along with their Estimates? If the Tories are still there and come along with the demand for big sums for the Air Force, with all these expensive new planes, will the Labour Party be prepared to take a stand and say: "No, we must have the schools, and the hospitals that we called for at Margate, first "? And will the Labour Party be prepared to say this, too, to the Minister for War and the First Lord of the

And supposing Mr. Shinwell, Mr. Strachey and Mr. Arthur Henderson are back at their old jobs and presenting the Estimates, and Mr. Guiskell has to find the money?

Will the money be available for equal pay and for a free health service and for the big capital sums that we need before we can grow more food from British land?

I am sorry to keep on asking these awk-ward questions but there they are. And they are not answered by Mr. Attlee's analogy of the overcoat.

Labour won't go far or move very quickly if it is in a strait-jacket.



\* Order from your Newsagent or write Dept. B. Socialist Outlook, 177 Bermondsey St., SEI

I RENOUNCE WAR AND I WILL NEVER SUPPORT OR SANCTION ANOTHER

This pledge, sign d by each member, is the basis of the Peace Pledge Union. Send YOUR pledge to

P.P.U. HEADQUARTERS Dick Shappard House, Endsleigh Street, W.C.I.

# The call-up: for defence or war?

From page one

"I have been chairman of the Richmond and Barnes Labour League of Youth, chairman of the Surrey Federation of Labour Leagues of Youth, chairman of the Southern Regional (Labour Party) Youth Advisory Committees. In the adult section of the Party I have been a member of the Executive Committee, General Council, Publicity and Propaganda, Political Education and many other commit-This activity bears out the authenticity of the objection,'

The chairman, Judge Sir Gerald Hargreaves, in dismissing the case, said the objection was to a particular policy and was not a matter they could deal with—the applicant did not object to fighting as such.

#### No ruling in NS Act

The Tribunal has been consistent in declaring that COs must object to war under all circumstances. There is nothing in the Act which says this, and apparently interpreta-tion is left to the Tribunals. Successive Ministers of Labour have been loth to issue

There was no doubt about the genuineness of John Reckie's statement and although it must be agreed that such cases are more difficult to assess than the more general religious objections, public opinion must be roused so that a wider interpretation of the Act be made by the Tribunals.

#### Preparation for war

Is National Service a preparation for war or is it to be used as a means of defence and to enable young men to see the world? At the same sitting at Fulham Town Hall it was obvious that the members of the Tri-

bunal considered it as a preparation for war. It ignored the fact that National Service lads, in all parts of the world today, were doing exactly what Reekie had previously stated and were likely to do for many years to come.

When John Southgate, of Runwell Hospital, Wickford, Essex, was questioned about his humanitarian objection he was told that he had to decide what was his duty when war happened, not his conscientious objection to going into the Army now. But the Army authorities want him now. No wonder some COs find it difficult, to say the least, at Ful-

John Southgate is now working at a mental hospital. This is from choice, for he studied at the St. Martin's School of Art for four years. Because of his talents, a master of the school said he would probably take up occupational therapy and so be of still greater use to his fellow men. His mother is a group secretary of the Peace Pledge Union and she and John have rendered considerable help to the International Help for Children organisa-

This case, too, was dismissed, the reasons given being that he had not grappled with the real aspects of the matter and he must study why military service itself was wrong. He could appeal after doing that.

# LPF MEETING

\* From page one

The Communism which thinks that the native of China and the men in the Middle West of the USA are brothers; that is the Communism to which I subscribe."

It was essential, he added, that members of the Labour movement should never forget that they were fundamentally an international Socialist movement, "not just a political party trying to delude the electors into putting them into power.

Referring to his recent visit to China, Emrys Hughes told of a lecture he had listened to in Peking given by the Minister responsible for flood-prevention work.

"I asked the interpreter what post the Minister had held previously. He had been a General in Chiang Kai-shek's army. I said I had never seen a general transferred to such useful work."

Emrys Hughes continued, amidst faughter and applause: "If I were ever Minister of War or Defence, I would transfer all generals to useful work within six months."

Turning to the present international situation, Emrys Hughes welcomed the Labour movement's opposition to an extension of the Korean war into China,

"The lesson of Korea is this: we should not go to war in any part of the world under any circumstances.

"I believe that we will end the cold war and save humanity from the terrible curse of a

Leslie Hale MP spoke with great conviction

of his opposition to conscription and was loudly applauded when he declared, "I will

never vote for conscription again."

Endorsing Ritchie Calder's plea for an attack on world poverty, Leslie Hale recalled a problem which faced the last Labour Government. How much could the people of Britain by again to pay for reasonable and the could the people of Britain be asked to pay for rearmament and how much for the "war on want?"

The figure was fixed as 12s. 6d. per head por week for the former and 4d. for the latter.

# The Northern Diver

Bad weather in northern waters where the combined Anglo-American striking fleet has been manoeuvring in the closing stages of the NATO exercise "Mariner," caused all air activity to be suspended yesterday after early morning attacks had been caused all air activity to be suspenaea yesicraay after cars, and made by RAF dive bombers off the North West coast of Scotland.

—Daily Telegraph, October 3, 1953

THE Island of Arran is only 60 miles tumbling in falls to the sea, cattle, sheep, her Ho, 903 round and 165 square miles over all; and human beings. it is situated at the entrance to the Firth

Everything in fact that makes up island other than farming and fishing. It is no more of Clyde with its southern end jutting self-supporting, however, than is Great Britan out into the Atlantic. Its 3,000 ft. hills, for coal must come from the mainland, and rugged and precipitous, seems to rise out of the sea as though some vast volcano petrol and oil, clothing and utensits. had thrust them forth from the bed of

refreshing my eyes with the magical colouring the opalescence of the sea in sunshine, the rose sandstone rocks, purple heather, bracket golden in its autum dress, brilliant scales in the rowan bergies and birth blue bills about details. had thrust them forth from the bed of Yet, it could easily be a tiny replica of Great Britain. The sea, (as is usual in islands!) rowan berries, and high blue hills shouldering is all around, washing up against rocks or each other to the sky sand; there are no white cliffs of Dover, it When the equinoctial gales madden the great

is true, but there are granite cliffs, and caves, moors, mountains, trees, wild flowers, heather, Atlantic rollers into white topped fury, sea-birds come driving in close to the short sweet fields of corn and hay, rushing rivers The great northen divers, gannets or solur geese as they are sometimes called, with their six-foot wing span, white barred with blad can be clearly seen diving for the fish white are their food. No vegetarians they

They sweep low over the waves, then sold ing high they hover like hawks balancing the air, and riding the wind they somersum in a streaking dive, plummeting down will wings closing only as they pierce the water to their prev. their prey.

The human race with their dive bomber have imitated them well and truly. bombers attached to aircraft carriers in recent exercise "Mariner," part of which populace in the beautiful and peaceful water of the Clyde, also ride the wind, and at a ground the clyde, also ride the wind, and at a ground moment peel off one after the other in shricking death-dealing dive.

There is a terrifying similarity between the birds and their human imitation, the obevil, the gannet's plunge is no more than

shopping expedition to purchase food.

The exercise called "Mariner" was peritently written up in the newspapers as experiment in defence, yet it was obvious it was also an experiment in attack since the commy laid mock mines, and mock attack by submarines, warships and bombers were to order of the day." Mock war in fact!

DOES an increase in the development of War, either real or imitation seems to be in the headlines. The end of NATO's exercise of the Scottish coast is succeeded by another those sinister bind of according to the second of t more sinister kind of exercise off Jamaica Troops embark and warships sail under "scaled orders." A US navy pilot flies a fighter at over 750 mph; the Woomera rocker range is ready to fire off its first experiment pilotless mass destruction. And the within that country the standard of living remains stationary?" That is the first issue put by all critics of international aid, said Professor Arthur Lewis, professor of Political Economy at Manchester University. pilotless mass destruction. And the political parties hold their platituding debates, and "fiddle" exasperatingly ineptly while the world disintegrates. Council. The Chairman throughout the Seminar is Geoffrey Wilson, late director of the Colombo Plan Technical Co-operation

It has seemed to me that in this insurance, pacifism resembles the beauty and in the process of peace of my little northern island. There staunchly stands, unmoved by storms, strong resisting the battering breakers, and offerful with its sheltered bays haven from tempest; exquisite to the eye, sustaining the spirit.

A double rainbow is a common sight the a kind of symbol, in the midst of rain " mist and cloud, that the sun is there waiting we give out its warmth and show to all the

eternal beauty of this world.

And so pacifism will stand, battered by seas of war, swept by the gales of fear, but lifting its heart to the hills, a landmark those who must aventually each with college. those who must eventually seek with course and confidence the harbour of a warless work countries where more than half the children

# END CONSCRIPTION THIS YEAR!

Rally in Trafolgar Square

Saturday, October 17,

at 3 p.m.

Speakers:

Fenner Brockway, MP L. J. Cuming, Michael Randle Stuart Morris, Sybil Morrison

Chairman. Hugh Brock.

Organised by the Peace Pledge Union

Minnie Pallister, Reginald Reynolds, Donald Soper.

> Will speak at the Dick Sheppar Anniversary gethering in Ward Hall, Tavistock London, W.C.1 on

Saturday, October 31, Refreshments 6.30 to 7.30 p.m.

PEACE NEWS and PEACE PLEDGE UNION

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